

**What is claimed is:**

1. A label to which a product code is recorded,  
wherein the product code includes:  
5 an item identification code that identifies a relevant  
product; and  
a plurality of information source addresses that specify a  
storage location where information related to the said product is  
memorized.  
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2. The label according to Claim 1,  
wherein the label comprises a noncontact IC tag, and  
the product code is memorized in the noncontact IC tag.
- 15 3. The label according to Claim 2,  
wherein the plurality of the information source addresses  
are respectively memorized at each location corresponding to a  
type of information related to the said product.
- 20 4. The label according to Claim 3,  
wherein the product code further includes a plurality of  
information type codes that identify the type of information  
related to the said product, and  
each of the plurality of the information type codes  
25 corresponds to the information source address that specifies the  
storage location where the type of product information indicated  
by the information type code is memorized.
5. The label according to Claim 4,  
30 wherein the information type code is layered data.
6. The label according to Claim 5,

wherein the information type code further includes a security code that restricts access to the storage location where the type of product information indicated by the information type code is memorized.

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7. The label according to Claim 6,  
wherein the product code further includes a product type code that identifies a type of the said product.

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8. The label according to Claim 7,  
wherein the type of information indicated by the information type code is corresponded to one of a plurality of stages that form a life cycle of the product.

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9. The label according to Claim 8,  
wherein the information source address is a URL that specifies a web site on the Internet.

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10. The label according to Claim 1,  
wherein the label is a code that includes a two dimensional code, and  
the product code is memorized in the two dimensional code.

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11. The label according to Claim 10,  
wherein the plurality of the information source addresses are respectively memorized at each location corresponding to a type of information related to the said product.

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12. The label according to Claim 11,  
wherein the product code further includes a plurality of the information type codes that identify the type of information

related to the said product, and

each of the plurality of the information type codes corresponds to the information source address that specifies the storage location where the type of product information indicated  
5 by the information type code is memorized.

13. The label according to Claim 12,  
wherein the information type code is layered data.

10 14. The label according to Claim 13,  
wherein the information type code further includes a security code that restricts access to the storage location where the type of product information indicated by the information type code is memorized.

15 15. The label according to Claim 14,  
wherein the product code further includes a product type code that identifies a type of the said product.

20 16. The label according to Claim 15,  
wherein the type of information indicated by the information type code is corresponded to one of a plurality of the stages that form a life cycle of the product.

25 17. The label according to Claim 16,  
wherein the information source address is a URL that specifies a web site on the Internet.

18. A product with a label attached,  
30 wherein an item identification code, which identifies the said product, and a product code, which includes a plurality of information source addresses that specify a storage location

where information related to the said product is memorized, are recorded on the label.

19. A product information acquisition apparatus that acquires  
5 information related to a product with a label attached,

wherein an item identification code, which identifies the said product, and a product code, which includes a plurality of information source addresses that specify a storage location where the information related to the said product is memorized,  
10 are recorded on the label, and

the product information acquisition apparatus comprises:

a first reading out unit operable to read out the item identification code and the information source address that are recorded on the label;

15 a first information acquisition unit operable to acquire information of the product corresponding to the item identification code from a location indicated by the readout information source address via a communication path; and

a first display unit operable to display the acquired  
20 information.

20. A product information acquisition apparatus that acquires information related to a product with a label attached,

wherein the label is equipped with a noncontact IC tag to  
25 which a product code is recorded,

the product code includes:

an item identification code that identifies the said product;

a plurality of information source addresses that specify a storage location where the information related to the said product  
30 is memorized; and

a plurality of information type codes that identify a type of information related to the said product,

each of the plurality of the information type codes corresponds to the information source address that specifies the storage location where the type of product information indicated by the information type code is memorized, and

5        the product information acquisition apparatus comprises:

        a second reading out unit operable to read out the information type code and the item identification code that are recorded on the label;

        a second information acquisition unit operable to acquire

10       information of the product corresponding to the item identification code from a location indicated by the information source address corresponding to the readout information type code via a communication path; and

        a second display unit operable to display the acquired

15       information of the product.

21.    The product information acquisition apparatus according to Claim 20,

        wherein the label further includes a security code that

20       restricts access to the storage location where the type of product information indicated by the information type code is memorized,

        the product information acquisition apparatus further comprises:

        a security reading out unit operable to read out the security

25       code recorded on the label; and

        an information acquisition restriction unit operable to restrict acquisition of the product information based on the readout security code.

30    22.    The product information acquisition apparatus according to Claim 21,

        wherein the label further includes a product type code that

identifies a type of the said product, and

the product information acquisition apparatus further comprises a product type code reading out unit operable to read out the product type code recorded on the label.

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23. A product information acquisition apparatus that acquires information related to a product with a label attached,

wherein the label is a code that includes a two dimensional code to which a product code is recorded,

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the product code includes:

an item identification code that identifies the said product;

a plurality of information source addresses that specify a storage location where the information related to the said product is memorized; and

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a plurality of information type codes that identify a type of information related to the said product,

each of the plurality of the information type codes corresponds to the information source address that specifies the storage location where the type of product information indicated by the information type code is memorized, and

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the product information acquisition apparatus comprises:

a second reading out unit operable to read out the information type code and the item identification code that are recorded on the label;

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a second information acquisition unit operable to acquire information of the product corresponding to the item identification code from a location indicated by the information source address corresponding to the readout information type code via a communication path; and

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a second display unit operable to display the acquired information of the product.

24. The product information acquisition apparatus according to Claim 23,

wherein the label further includes a security code that restricts access to the storage location where the type of product information indicated by the information type code is memorized,

the product information acquisition apparatus further comprises:

a security reading out unit operable to read out the security code recorded on the label; and

an information acquisition restriction unit operable to restrict acquisition of the product information based on the readout security code.

25. The product information acquisition apparatus according to Claim 24,

wherein the label further includes a product type code that identifies a type of the said product, and

the product information acquisition apparatus further comprises a product type code reading out unit operable to read out the product type code recorded on the label.

26. A product code editing apparatus that edits a product code memorized in a label,

wherein the label is equipped with a noncontact IC tag to which the product code is recorded,

the product code includes:

an item identification code that identifies a relevant product; and

a plurality of information source addresses that specify a storage location where information related to the said product is memorized,

the product code editing apparatus comprises a first writing

unit operable to write a new product code on the noncontact IC tag.

27. The product code editing apparatus according to Claim 26,  
5 further comprising a writing restriction unit operable to restrict writing of the new product code.

28. A product code editing apparatus that edits a product code memorized in a label,  
10 the label is a code that includes a two dimensional code to which a product code is recorded,  
the product code includes:  
an item identification code that identifies a relevant product; and  
15 a plurality of information source addresses that specify a storage location where information related to the said product is memorized,  
the product code editing apparatus comprises a first writing unit operable to write a new product code on the two  
20 dimensional code.

29. The product code editing apparatus according to Claim 28,  
further comprising a writing restriction unit operable to restrict writing of the new product code.  
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